

Proclaim Powerful Black Family Celebration Day

Heart disease is the leading cause of death in the United States, killing over 83,000 Californians each year and affecting African-Americans at a higher rate than all other cancers combined. In particular, stroke is the number one cause of long-term disability nationwide, the number two killer in Los Angeles County, and impacts African-Americans at a rate of two times more than any other race and at younger ages.

In response, the American Heart Association and American Stroke Association launched Power to End Stroke, an initiative aimed at creating a “movement” about the serious health disparity issue of heart disease and stroke within the African-American community to drive the message that heart disease and stroke are preventable diseases.

In collaboration with the Power to End Stroke initiative, the American Heart Association is hosting the Powerful Black Family Celebration on July 23, 2011 to

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MOTION

MOLINA _____

RIDLEY-THOMAS _____

YAROSLAVSKY _____

KNABE _____

ANTONOVICH _____

**MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
JULY 19, 2011
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educate and empower the African-American community to reduce the incidence of stroke and heart disease in Los Angeles County. The goal of the event is to educate the community about stroke warning signs and prevention while raising awareness about risk factors including high blood pressure, diabetes and obesity. Participants will receive valuable information through health screenings and educational resources; participate in heart-healthy nutrition and physical fitness activities; and honor loved ones lost to heart disease and stroke with a family tree memorial.

THEREFORE, I MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

Proclaim July 23, 2011 as Powerful Black Family Celebration Day to promote education and awareness around stroke and heart disease prevention in Los Angeles County; and urge all residents to familiarize themselves with the risk factors associated with stroke, recognize the warning signs and symptoms, and dial 9-1-1 immediately on first signs of a stroke to reduce the devastating effects of stroke and heart disease on the County's population.

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